

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-20 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 12, 13 and 16 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-20 remain pending subsequent entry of the present amendment.

Allowed Subject Matter and Rejections

In the present Office Action, claim 12 is allowed.

In addition to the above, claims 1-4, 6-7, 13-14, and 16-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0133674 ("Martin") and European Patent Application 817069 ("Hagersten"). Claims 8-10 and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin and Hagersten in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,887,138. Finally, Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin and Hagersten in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,774,731. While Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, Applicant has amended the claims to include the identified allowable subject matter in order to facilitate speedy allowance of the present application.

In particular, claim 12 is presently allowed. Applicant has amended claim 12 for clarification purposes. Notably, claim 12 recites a memory subsystem including a directory and the claim has been amended to read the request is routed to only the memory subsystem including the directory. Applicant submits the clarifying amendment adds no new matter and the claim remains allowable over the cited art. Each of independent claims 1, 13, and 16 have been amended to include features similar to that of claim 12. Accordingly, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

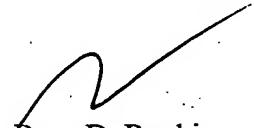
In addition to the above, claim 16 has been amended to address the examiner's comments in paragraph 6 of the present Office Action. In particular, the language of claim 16 has been amended to be consistent with that of the remaining independent claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If a phone interview would speed allowance of any pending claims, such is requested at the Examiner's convenience.

No fees are believed necessary; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees, which may be required to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account Number 501505/5181-99401/RDR.

Respectfully submitted,



Rory D. Rankin
Reg. No. 47,884
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MEYERTONS, HOOD, KIVLIN,
KOWERT & GOETZEL, P.C.
P. O. Box 398
Austin, Texas 78767-0398
(512) 853-8800

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